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1 wherein the association annotation is based, at least in part, on an
2 acquired directive.

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of 30 October 2002. Claims 1-20 are pending in the application, and Claims 1-20 have been rejected.

Claim 1 has been amended, consistent with the specification.

No new matter has been added.

In view of the amendments above and remarks below, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination.

About The Invention

The present invention relates generally to information and resource management, typically in the context of an information apparatus. More particularly, various embodiments of the present invention provide for enhancing coordination between acquisition resources, and exploiting resources, via information association resources. Such information association resources may coordinate with acquisition resources so as to reduce the amount of user skill and/or effort consumed in distributing any particular information to any particular exploiting resource.

Drawings

In a separate paper, filed concurrently herewith, and entitled "Submission of Formal Drawings", Applicants have submitted four sheets of formal drawings, which include Figs. 1-4. Applicants submit that these formal drawings overcome the informalities noted in the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review attached to the Office Action.

Rejections under 35 USC 102(e)

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e), as being anticipated by Astarabadi, (US Patent 5,822,405).

With respect to Claim 1, the Examiner states that Astarabadi teaches an information apparatus comprising acquisition resources, the acquisition resources providing for acquisition of information (col. 5, line 65, through col. 6, line 34); distribution resources, coupled to the acquisition resources so as to receive and distribute all or parts of the acquired information (col. 5, line 65, through col. 6, line 34; and col. 8, lines 17-41); and association resources, coupled to the acquisition and distribution resources, the association resources providing an association annotation to the distribution resources, whereby the distribution resources distribute responsive to the association annotation (col. 5, line 65, through col. 6, line 34).

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the information apparatus is for general information and resource management, that the acquisition resources are adapted to acquire multiple data types, that the multiple data types include at least directives, and that the association annotation is based, at least in part, on an acquired directive. Support for the amendment of Claim 1 can be found generally throughout the specification, and more particularly in the specification at page 13, line 19, through page 14, line 10; and at page 24, line 15, through page 25, line 19.

Applicants respectfully submit that Astarabadi does not disclose a generalized information and resource management system, such as that defined by amended Claim 1, but rather discloses a system dedicated to the function of retrieving voicemail from a remote device. Additionally, Applicants' claimed invention provides for the acquisition of multiple data types. As noted in the specification, these multiple data types may include, without limitation any format or protocol, and (again without limitation) any means of communication, regardless of whether it is wired or wireless; serial or parallel; or infrared or radio frequency. Applicants' claimed invention is also adapted to produce an association annotation based upon an acquired directive. In other words, information may be acquired in various forms and formats from one or more of a

plurality of acquisition resources, and distributed by way of one or more distribution resources based on the association annotation which was derived from an acquired directive. Since Astarabadi does appear to teach, suggest, or provide motivation for the invention defined by Applicant's amended Claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of, Astarabadi.

Claims 2-20 depend either directly or indirectly from Claim 1, and therefore, are also not anticipated by Astarabadi.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 USC 102(e) have been overcome.

Conclusion

All of the rejections in the outstanding Office Action of July 02, 2002 have been responded to, and Applicants respectfully submit that the pending Claims 1-20 are now in condition for allowance.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Portland, Oregon

Version with markings to show changes made

In the Claims

1 1. (Amended) An information apparatus for general information and resource
2 management, comprising:
3 a plurality of acquisition resources, the plurality of acquisition resources
4 adapted to acquire information comprising multiple data types, the multiple
5 data types including, at least, directives;
6 a plurality of distribution resources, coupled to the acquisition resources
7 so as to receive and distribute all or part of the acquired information; and
8 association resources, coupled to the acquisition and distribution
9 resources, the association resources adapted to provide [providing] an
10 association annotation to the distribution resources, whereby the distribution
11 resources distribute responsive to the association annotation;
12 wherein the association annotation is based, at least in part, on an
13 acquired directive.